

Chairperson: Robert Sheesley  
Vice Chairperson:  
Executive Secretary: Maura Rossman, M.D.  
Recorded By: Antigone Vickery/Gloria Whittington

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**March Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** March 22, 2016  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Howard County Health Department  
8930 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 21045

Members Present: Robert Sheesley, Darryl Burnett, Carlessia Hussein, Sheri Lewis, Deborah Rivkin, Gary Stewart,  
Members Excused: Kevin Carlson, Paul Nagy, Maura Rossman, Sue Song, Antigone Vickery  
Staff: Bert Nixon, Senior Staff Representative, Gloria Whittington, Administrative Aide  
Guest: N/A

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions	Robert Sheesley, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to accept February’s minutes.	The motion to accept the February 23rd minutes was approved unanimously after a few corrections noted and made.
Health Officer’s Report	<p>Senate Bill 200 and House Bill 497 -Environmental Health Specialist’s - Regulation, was discussed in length. House representatives and Senate representatives has reviewed this bill and it has not been passed to date. Please see attached Senate Bill.</p> <p>There was a Sunset Review in legislative Department attend meetings, looking at By-laws. Considering moving the Board to NEHI which means you will be licensed by the State and NEHI.</p> <p>Department of Legislative Services conduct a certain evaluation of the Board; providing that an individual who is licensed by the Board on a certain date is considered to be licensed and deemed eligible to practice as an environmental health specialist for the duration of the term of the license.</p> <p>All of the Environmental Health Specialist in our Department are licensed by the State and have paid for their credentials which are renewed every 12 years. If this Bill is passed only the NEHI licensed credentials will be recognized. Most of our staff only has the State licensed, very few have the licensed through NEHI which means they would be a loss of EHS across the State, most would have to be re-certified and pay additional fees. The cost of the certification would go from \$250 up to \$500 a year for both.</p> <p>Senate Bill 200 and House Bill 497 delegates have different versions of Bills. Senate wants us to go with NEAI</p>	<p>A Sunset Review is a process that was established by Legislature to provide for greater openness in government decision-making and to improve government accountability.</p> <p>Sunset is the regular assessment of the continuing need for a state agency to exist and/or how to improve the agency’s operation.</p> <p>The process work by setting a date on which an agency will be abolished unless legislation is passed to continue its functions.</p> <p>NEHI = National Environmental Health in Colorado</p> <p>Board Voted on Draft Changes to regulation as submitted</p>

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action/Follow-up	
	<p>Some issues are: Specify the membership, powers, and duties of the Board, and provide for the officers, meetings, compensation, and staff for the Board; repealing the State Board of Environmental Health Specialists Fund; repealing the requirement that an individual be licensed by the Board to practice as an environmental health specialist in the State; repealing provisions of law relating to the licensure of environmental health specialists; repealing certain prohibited acts and penalties; repealing a certain short title; repealing a certain termination provision; requiring an individual to obtain and maintain a certain credential and submit certain documentation to the individual's employer to practice as an environmental health specialist in the State; requiring the employer of an individual practicing as an environmental health specialist to verify the individual's compliance with certain provisions of this Act on a certain basis; providing exemptions from the application of certain provisions of this Act; authorizing certain individuals to practice as an environmental health specialist in the State under certain circumstances and for a certain period of time. Submit certain documentation to the individual's employer to practice as an environmental health specialist in the State; requiring the employer of an individual practicing as an environmental health specialist to verify the individual's compliance with certain provisions of this Act on a certain basis.</p> <p>Board Member <b>Hussein</b> asked the questions of What are the Lead Levels in our water in Howard County because of the Flint Water situation on daily news.</p> <p>Board Member <b>Stewart</b> wants to review the challenges of the letter that was not received well! From Whom? And Why? The Support Letter for Behavioral Health and Mental Health.</p> <p>Board Member <b>Burnett</b> request taking another look at the transition of BH grant funds to Beacon Health.</p> <p>.</p>	<p>County do not have lead line pipes; Home owners need to flush their lines regular, that brings in the fresh water; Howard County water supply comes from Baltimore City and its one of the best supply in the Country.</p> <p>Both Members Would like items on Next Board Agenda</p>	
Old Business	B.O.H. By Laws was sent to the County for Review. The one change under Section 2.2 (j) to replace the word advocating to promoting was made and signed off on by the County. Carlessia wanted to know why there was a word change in the By-laws. Bob explained the first word was (strong) or (too aggressive) for the	Now that By-Laws are legal it was agreed April Board Meeting members will Vote on the final B.O.H. By Laws.	

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	County Executive Office.		
New Business	Turf Valley in February had a voluntary closure February 16, 17, 18 2016 because of a Foodborne Out Break. When the Dept. found out the following Monday, inspectors went out to do an assessment. They found people who attended an event had reported illnesses along with some employees. Norris virus was the cause. They closed for a week and re- opened the following Wednesday by Friday we received reports of illness again. The Dept. received news of more people was sick. Dept. found out that equipment and kitchen were not cleaned. Turf Valley brought in a private cleaning crew the following week. Turf Valley cleaned and thrown food away, that could have been tested. Dept. returned and surveyed the location and spent a whole day at an event that was being held that served Box Lunches used tents for the outdoor event. DHMH had a survey to find out what food or staff may be matched that handled the food preparation. Nothing was found. We found out that 200 people was surveyed that attend an event at Turf Valley. The number of people hospitalized number was unknown.	Dept. looked closely at Turf Valley's handling of food practices. They re-opened March 10, 2016. Appeared since then NO issues with the Norris Virus was identified. A lot of environmental staff and nurses were used to review, inspect, surveying and monitoring Turf Valley process to assure it was correct.	
Chairperson's Report	N/A		
Adjournment	<i>There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.</i>		

**Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2016**

**Next Board of Health Meeting:**  
**Time: 6:00 p.m.**

**Place: Howard Co. Health Department**  
**8930 Stanford Blvd. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**